

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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JAKARTA FOR AMBASSADOR - USUN FOR ASSISTANT SEC HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PINT, SHUM, ASEC, RP

SUBJECT:LOPEZ/OSMENA ESCAPE

REFS: A. MANILA 15713 B. STATE 237337

FOLLOWING IS ACCOUNT OF ESCAPE GIVEN INS INSPECTOR AT
LOS ANGELES AIRPORT BY STEVE PSINAKIS:

QUOTE ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1977, EUGENIO LOPEZ, JR., AND
SERGIO OSMENA, III ESCAPED FROM THE PRISON AND FLED TO A
PRE-ARRANGED LOCATION APPROXIMATELY 1.5 KILOMETERS AWAY.

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THERE THEY WERE MET BY EUGENIO LOPEZ, III AND RAFAEL LOPEZ
WHO WERE WAITING IN AN AUTOMOBILE. THE TWO ESCAPEES WERE
THEN CONCEALED IN THE TRUNK OF THE VEHICLE AND DRIVEN TO
AN AIR STRIP ABOUT 3 HOURS AWAY. AT THE AIR STRIP, THE
FOUR MEN WERE MET BY AUGUSTO ALMEDA-LOPEZ. ALL FIVE MEN
WERE THEN FLOWN BY PRIVATE AIRCRAFT TO HONG KONG INTER-
NATIONAL AIRPORT.

QUOTE ON ARRIVAL IN HONG KONG, THE FIVE MEN PROCEEDED TO A CORRIDOR BETWEEN THE HONG KONG IMMIGRATION FACILITY AND THE TRANSIT PASSENGER LOUNGE WHERE THEY MIXED WITH PASSENGERS ARRIVING ON COMMERCIAL AIRLINES.

QUOTE STEVE PSINAKIS WHO HAD BEEN AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF THE PRIVATE AIRCRAFT IN HONG KONG, THEN PROCEEDED TO THE JAPAN AIRLINES TICKET COUNTER AND PRESENTED HIS AIRLINE TICKET AND FIVE OTHER AIRLINE TICKETS WHICH HE HAD PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED IN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. PSINAKIS HAD IN HIS POSSESSION SIX VALID U.S. PASSPORTS. IN ADDITION TO HIS OWN PASSPORT, PSINAKIS HAD THE U.S. PASSPORTS OF HIS TWO MINOR CHILDREN, THE PASSPORT OF EUGENIO LOPEZ, III AND THE PASSPORTS OF TWO OTHER "ACQUAINTANCES". UPON PRESENTATION OF THE PASSPORTS AND TICKETS, THE JAPAN AIRLINE TICKET AGENT PULLED THE COUPONS FROM THE TICKET BOOKS AND ISSUED SIX BOARDING PASSES. PSINAKIS THEN PROCEEDED TO WHERE THE OTHER FIVE MEN WERE WAITING AND DISTRIBUTED THE BOARDING PASSES. THE GROUP THEN CONTINUED INTO THE TRANSIT LOUNGE AND BOARDED THE JAPAN AIRLINE FLIGHT FOR LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. END QUOTE.

CHRISTOPHER

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